REMARKS

The application has been reviewed and revised in light of the Office Action mailed on January 11, 2006. Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the application, with Claims 4, 12 and 20 being in independent form. By this amendment, Claims 1, 9 and 14 have been cancelled and Claims 2-8, 10-13, 15-17 and 20 have been amended. No new matter or issues have been introduced by this amendment. In view of the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of the claims of this application are respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of Claims 2, 4, 10, 12, 18 and 20 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. It is respectfully submitted that Claims 4, 12 and 20 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, allowance of independent Claims 4, 12 and 20 is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claims 1, 5, 8, 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 5, 8, 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hefetz et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,369,391 B1). Claims 1 and 14 have been cancelled.

Claims 5, 8 and 16 depend from independent Claims 4 and 12, and are therefore patentable for at least the reasons given above for independent Claims 4 and 12. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested and allowance of Claims 5, 8 and 16 is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claims 3, 17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3, 17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hefetz et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0159803 issued to Akselrod et al.

Claims 3, 17 and 19 depend directly or indirectly from independent Claims 4 and 20 and therefore include the limitations of independent Claims 4 and 20. Therefore, for at least the same reasons given above for Claims 4 and 20, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 3, 17 and 19 are also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested and allowance of Claims 3, 17 and 19 is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claims 7, 9 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 7, 9 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hefetz et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,864,141 issued to Majewski et al. Claim 9 has been cancelled.

Claims 7 and 15 depend from independent Claims 4 and 12 and therefore include the limitations of independent Claims 4 and 12. Therefore, for at least the same reasons given above for Claims 4 and 12, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 7 and 15 are also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested and allowance of Claims 7 and 15 is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hefetz et al. in view of Majewski et al. and further in view of Akselrod et al.

Claim 11 depends from independent Claim 12 and therefore includes the limitations of independent Claim 12. Therefore, for at least the same reasons given above for Claim 12, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 11 is also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested and allowance of Claim 11 is earnestly solicited.

Rejection of Claims 6 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hefetz et al. in view of Majewski et al. and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,534,771 issued to Rozsa.

Claims 6 and 13 depend from independent Claims 4 and 12 and therefore include the limitations of independent Claims 4 and 12. Therefore, for at least the same reasons given above for Claims 4 and 12, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 6 and 13 are also believed to be allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested and allowance of Claims 6 and 13 is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that none of the references of record, considered individually or in combination, in whole or in part, disclose or suggest the claimed subject matter. Therefore, all claims now pending in this application, namely Claims 2-8, 10-13 and 15-20, are now in condition for allowance.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone or personal interview may facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, he is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully Submitted,

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